



# PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
1919 M STREET N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

71402

News media information 202/418-0500 Recorded listing of releases and texts 202/418-2222.

December 20, 1997

## EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM HANDBOOKS GO ON-LINE

The Commission has released the Emergency Alert System (EAS) AM/FM and television Handbooks via the internet. The Handbooks contain basic operation procedures for stations to use during EAS activations.

The Handbooks provide instruction for national, state and local activations. They also provide testing procedures and script samples that may be used by the stations. All AM/FM and television stations are required to have EAS equipment in use on January 1, 1997. Broadcasters are reminded that they should maintain their old Emergency Broadcast System receivers until January 1, 1998, as a backup to the new EAS equipment.

The new EAS page may be downloaded from the Compliance and Information Bureau's home page on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.fcc.gov/cib/eas/> (AM/FM Handbook is 34 pages, 336MB and the TV handbook is 34 pages, 334 KB). Please note that the Handbooks look best when a version 3.0 of the Acrobat Reader Software is used.

By now, broadcasters should have received a 1997 EAS Authenticator List. When EAS equipment is operated in the manual mode, station personnel can use the List to verify national level emergency messages.

Questions regarding the web site may be directed to the EAS staff at (202) 418-1220.

-FCC-